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INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

Yugoslavia

SUBJECT

Military Garrison Clinic/Military Medical
Academy

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT

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1. The medical clinics in Yugoslavia operate the same as the hospitals in the US. In these clinics both diagnoses and treatments are performed. All military clinics are operated under the Department of the Defense Minister and all other clinics are under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Health.
2. The military garrison clinic in Belgrade is one of the oldest in Yugoslavia. Its buildings, some of which are of recent construction, are well maintained, and the equipment is the most modern of any clinic in Yugoslavia. It compares well with any [redacted] in European countries and the smaller hospitals in the US. The clinic has normal facilities for six hundred beds, but could be extended to at least nine hundred beds if necessary. The physicians and surgeons practicing in this clinic are all military men with the ranks of captain to full colonel. 50X1-HUM
3. Prior to World War II, most of the medical personnel (physicians and surgeons) for the Army Medical Corps received their preliminary training, before entering the [redacted], at the military garrison clinic in Belgrade. During World War II, this advance training was eliminated because of the urgent need for medical personnel in the field and in the training areas. About 1944, the military medical academy was established in the Belgrade military garrison clinic, and is now a part of that clinic. All who become a part of the military medical corps receive their post-graduate work at the academy.
4. The military medical academy in Belgrade is for post-graduate work only; 90 per cent of the personnel who are recruited for the Army Medical Corps come from the graduating classes of the five medical colleges in Yugoslavia. About

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ten per cent recruited are doctors who have completed their medical schooling and their internship, and from doctors who have been in private practice for some time.

5. Practically all of those who join the Army Medical Corps from the medical schools are already in the Army. These students are all subsidized by the military. Students, before they are accepted into the Army and permitted to enter the medical schools, are carefully screened as to their background, including prior-school records, health conditions, morals, and financial status. Anyone receiving this subsidy from the military, upon completing his military education, is required to enter the military medical academy where he is permitted to do his required internship and also post-graduate work. Anyone who has received this subsidy is permitted, if he desires not to go on with his medical education, to be discharged from the Army by paying back the money expended for his education to the Army.
6. [redacted] in 1954 one of the larger Yugoslav industrial units started to subsidize the education of one or two medical students at the Belgrade Medical College. These students, upon completion of their medical courses and internship, will then become employed by this industry. The student will then be required to pay back the cost of his education out of his salary. This may serve as a pattern for other industries to do the same.
7. Medical students, upon completing their education and upon entrance into the Army Medical Corps, are commissioned first lieutenants. The post-graduate studies for these students received at the Military Medical Academy are similar to the work that doctors in the US receive when studying for a higher degree than an MD degree, or are to become specialists in particular medical fields. These doctors attend lectures, classes, seminars, and work in laboratories. They also act as assistants to doctors and are required to perform regular hospital duty. After completing their graduate work, the medical officers are then assigned to one of the many other Army medical clinics which are located throughout Yugoslavia, or to active duty with the troops. This assignment generally carries with it a promotion to that of a captain. Some doctors who have completed their scholastic education and internship and have not received any subsidy from the Army may enlist in the Army Medical Corps for the purpose of securing additional graduate work in the Academy so as to equip themselves for some specialty when their military services have ended.
8. The military medical academy also serves as an institution where doctors in the Army medical corps can return for refresher courses or to specialize in some particular field of medicine.
9. There is a nurses' school associated with the military garrison clinic in Belgrade. Men and women who seek this training are carefully screened as to background, physical condition and habits. The graduate course in nursing is for three years. Some take an additional year for specific medical technical training. About 50 regular nurses graduate yearly. [redacted] the nurses and medical technicians who have received their training at this school are the most competent in all of Yugoslavia.
10. Not only dependents of the military personnel but anyone can enter the military garrison clinic. This applies to all other military clinics in Yugoslavia. There is no charge to the patient for the services he receives. After a patient has received medical attention and is discharged, a bill for payment is then sent to the State Department of Health. There are no charges made for military personnel and their dependents. All medical personnel receive

a salary, the amount of which depends upon their rank in the military. This salary compares favorably with the salaries received by other medical personnel in the civilian clinics.

11. There is complete cooperation between the military medical academy and the Belgrade Medical College. [redacted]

[redacted] it is not unusual for one of the institutions to call upon an instructor in the other to give a particular lecture or take part in group seminars.

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12. [redacted]

[redacted] the teaching personnel of the military medical academy, who are officers in the Army Medical Corps, are superior to those of the Belgrade Medical College. The reason for this is that many of the personnel in the military medical academy have had the opportunity to study in foreign countries [redacted] and medical personnel of other countries are invited to lecture and instruct at the military medical academy.

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13. The equipment at the military medical academy is superior to that of any of the other clinics [redacted] in Yugoslavia. One finds many more modern drugs are available at the military medical academy and there is a higher degree of specialization than in the other colleges and clinics.

14. There is only one type of surgeon in Yugoslavia and this is a general surgeon. However, these surgeons become proficient in particular fields of surgery and would [redacted] be regarded as specialists in their field in the US and some European countries.

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